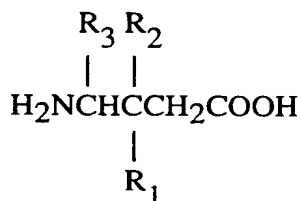


## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating pain comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, diastereomer, or enantiomer thereof wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is a straight or branched alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, or cycloalkyl of from 3 to 6 carbon atoms;

R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen or methyl; and

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R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen, methyl, or carboxyl to a mammal in need of said treatment.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the compound administered is a compound of Formula I wherein R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>1</sub> is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0-2</sub>-i C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> as an (R), (S), or (R,S) isomer.

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3. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the compound administered is named (S)-3-(aminomethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid and 3-aminomethyl-5-methyl-hexanoic acid.

4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is inflammatory pain.

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5. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is neuropathic pain.
6. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is cancer pain.
7. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is postoperative pain.
8. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is phantom limb pain.
9. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is burn pain.
10. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is gout pain.
- 10 11. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is osteoarthritic pain.
12. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is trigeminal neuralgia pain.
- 15 13. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is acute herpetic and postherpetic pain.
14. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is causalgia pain.
15. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is idiopathic pain.

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